

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Health, & Medical Family Welfare Department - Prevention of HIV/AIDS – People living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAS) who are receiving Anti Retroviral Treatment (ART) medicines – Providing of bus fare concession to PLHA's in APSRTC – Orders – Issued.

HEALTH, MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE (L.1) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 159

Dated. 17-07-2010

Read the following:-

1. From the PD, APSACS, Hyd, Lr.Rc.No.1928/RTC/AIDS/2008, dt.22.6.09.
2. From the VC&MD, APSRTC, Hyd., Lr.No.P9/294(49)/2006-OPD(P), dt.26.8.09 and 27.5.2010..
3. G.O.Rt.No.2912, Fin.(ExP.M&H.II) Dept., dt.18.6.10.

ORDER:

In the reference first read above, the Project Director, Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Hyderabad has proposed that People Living with HIV/AIDS who are receiving Anti Retroviral Treatment (ART) medicines may be provided with concession in bus fares on the lines of concession in rail fares to People living with HIV/AIDS who are on ART. There are about 50,000 PLHA's living on ART at present in the State, accessing ART medicines through the network of 31 ART Centres and 14 Link Art Centres. There is also a proposal to set up 5 new ART Centres and 25 link Art Centres in near future, thereby reducing the distance to be traveled by the People living with HIV/AIDS to access the ART.

2. The Project Director, Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Hyderabad has proposed that, Government may consider recommending to Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation for providing 50% concession in bus fare to the ART patients who are from below poverty for travelling to get ART medicines once in a month. He has stated that it is estimated that about 1,00,000 people would be visiting the ART Centres in a month, including the persons accompanying the patients traveling an average distance of 50 to 100 KMs. At an average cost of Rs.50/- per person per trip the cost on travel would be Rs.50/- x 12,00,000 = 6,00,00,000/- per annum and the cost on 50% concession would be Rs.3,00,00,000/- or Rs.3.00 crore per annum. The modalities to provide concessions are to be worked out by Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society in consultation with APSRTC.

3. The Vice Chairman & Managing Director, APSRTC, Hyderabad in his letter in the reference 2nd read above has stated that the total amount required per year towards 50% concession in normal fare for People living with HIV/AIDS with one attendant is Rs.5,28,00,000/- (Rupees five crores twenty eight lakhs only) and have to be reimbursed by Government. He has further stated that the APSRTC is receiving number of representations from the District Collectors as well as from HIV/AIDS patients to extend 50% concessional facility once in a month to the HIV/AIDS infected patients along with one attendant each to travel from the place of residence to

the nearest District Headquarters for their medical checkup and to collect free medicines. Therefore he has requested to issue instructions for reimbursement of Rs.5.28 crores, in advance in order to extend 50% concession in normal fare in APSRTC buses to 50,000 people living with HIV/AIDS along with one attendant each (residing in A.P. State) to perform journeys from the place of their residence to the nearest ART Centre once in a month to avail medicines and medical assistance.

4. Government after careful examination of the matter and have decided to provide concessional bus fare for travelling in APSRTC buses to People living with HIV/AIDS to receive ART Medicines to the nearest ART centre once in a month @ 50% concession on normal fare, along with one attendant. In the reference 4th read above, the Finance Department have released budget for Rs.5.00 crores (Rupees five crores only).

5. Accordingly, Government hereby order to provide concessional bus fare to People living with HIV/AIDS for travelling in APSRTC buses along with one attendant to the nearest ART centres to receive ART Medicines once in a month @ 50% concession on normal fare.

6. The Project Director, Andhra Pradesh State AIDS Control Society, Hyderabad shall take necessary further action to prescribe the operational modalities to implement the scheme in an efficient, effective and transparent manner to the convenience of the People living with HIV/AIDS.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

**J.SATYANARAYANA,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Project Director,

A.P. State AIDS Control Society, Hyderabad.

The Prl. Secretary to Govt.,

Transport, Roads & Buildings (TR.II) Department.

Copy to:

The Vice Chairman & Managing Director,

APSRTC, Hyderabad.

All HODs under the control of HM&FW Department.

The P.S. to Hon'ble M (H&FW).

The P.S. to Spl. Chief Secretary to Govt.,

Health, Medical & Family Welfare Department.

The P.S. to Secretary to Govt.,

Health, Medical & Family Welfare Department.

The Finance (Expr.M&H.II) Department.

SF/SC.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER